Principal’s Report

T-Ball Gala Day

Unfortunately, our T Ball Gala Day was postponed due to the rain. It will be scheduled for a day in Term 2.

Thank you to the parents who were able to assist with transport. We would not be able to attend days such as this without you.

Annual School Report and School Plan

In Term 1 of each year the school produces a report outlining the highlights of the previous year and the targets for the coming one. Our Annual School Report is now complete and is available from the school’s website. Go to www.nordswharf-p.schools.det.nsw.edu.au then click on the tab “About our school” and then “Annual School Report”. I have also put a direct link onto our Facebook page. Results from surveys conducted last year are contained within this report as are graphs of our Year 3 NAPLAN results. There are also a series of reports about the various initiatives and programs conducted by the school in 2012.

The School Plan is also available from this same webpage. The School Plan provides a more detailed plan of the actions we will be taking to achieve our targets.

The School Plan is a working document, meaning that it can and will change to reflect needs and / or changes in circumstance.

If you do not have internet access then you can pick up a hard copy from the office.

New organisation model for the Department of Education

Last week the State government announced the changes it has made to the structure of the Department of Education and Communities. For example the state will now be divided into 4 super regions, instead of the current 10 regions. These changes will be phased in over the coming year.

At the moment I am unsure of the direct impact this will have on our school. I will keep you informed as I learn more.

Spelling Program

Last year we introduced the concept of a ‘core’ spelling list that students in each grade should be able to spell. There are of course many children who can spell beyond this ‘core’ list. They are catered for with the weekly spelling lists.

Students in Years 1 - 6 were tested on their Term 1 list at the beginning of the year. During the term they have been practising words from the list and next week we will retest the students on the same words to see how much they have improved.

Next term the students will be introduced to a new list of ‘core’ words. We are aiming to have all of our students spelling at a basic level of competency. We are also providing extension words within weekly lists to encourage our better spellers to really excel.

‘Core’ words are not sound based like ‘chair’, ‘pair’, ‘stair’ ... Instead they are the everyday words that we should all know; like ‘should’, ‘know’, there’ ... Each year level has their own list although there is some repetition of words such as ‘there’ and ‘their’ as these tend to continue being misspelt all the way through school.

Towards the end of Term 2, and again in Term 4, the students will be tested using a standardised spelling test. We don’t teach to this test so it is a true indication of the spelling strategies that the children are learning as they progress through school.

ANZAC Day

We will have our ANZAC Day service on Friday of next week as this is our last school day before April 25. Could students please bring in flowers, that will be laid under our flag during the service and then, later, at the cenotaph in Catherine Hill Bay.

On ANZAC Day three of our school leaders, Harmony, Kyle and Boh, will be saying prayers as a part of the dawn service at Catherine Hill Bay Surf Lifesaving Club. This gets underway at 6 am and has been standing room only for the past few years, so please come early.

The school then marches as a part of the march through Swansea from McDonalds to the RSL. We leave McDonalds at 10 am. Harmony, our school captain, will be saying the Prayer to the Queen as a part of the service. I would encourage everyone to attend this special
event. It is a wonderful reflection of our school that we always have a good turn out. Children must wear full school uniform.

Go Green Day

Friday, 5 April is Go Green Day for Lake Macquarie Council. The day is to celebrate the launch of Green Bins in the community. Everyone is to come dressed in Green. Be as creative as possible in what they wear. Accessories are allowed – green hats, green headbands, green bangles etc. We will take a photo of each class and these will be sent to the council for judging. The council is giving prizes to the top five best-dressed classes on the day. An esky full of green iceblocks will be delivered to the winning classrooms by Arrthur the Pirate on Thursday 11 April 2013.

Karin Hird
Principal

Class News

K/1

This week in Maths Kindergarten has been learning about the position of numbers on a number line. We have been focusing on the number that comes before and after a given number, as well as writing numerals. Today we have begun to learn about patterns.

In literacy we have been consolidating the sounds and sight words we have learned this term and learning to write words using these sounds. Our reading focus has been ‘Lips the fish’ who tells us to get our mouth ready to make the first sound when we come across an unknown word. We have also met ‘Eagle Eye’ who reminds us to look at the picture to help us work out what the words say. A great website for reading practise is http://www.starfall.com.

Congratulations to those students who have achieved their bronze home reading award for 25 nights of home reading!

Please remember to dress in green tomorrow and help our class to be the best dressed. There is no need to go and buy new things. In class we have made some green decorations to wear.

Next Thursday I will be attending a course, so Mrs Thomas will be teaching the class. Have a great week!

Mrs Smith

1/2

The 1/2 Star of the Week this week is Kaylan! Well done to our Super Spellers; Grace, Ruby and Evan, who correctly wrote all their words in the spelling test last week.

Class 1/2 have been learning about water safety this week with Miss Burgess. Students were able to discuss how to be safe in and around water in great detail! In Mathematics this week we have been learning about volume and capacity, discovering how things can be packed together to fill a container and which materials are better for packing. To support this learning at home students could count how many blocks fill a box, cups of water fill a larger container or how much popcorn or dry pasta will fill a bowl.

The students and Mrs Halligan have had a lot of fun trying to guess “What’s in my Surprise Egg?”, the Easter homework activity (the clues have been fantastic). This week is the last week of homework for the term. Next week students are able to share news on a topic of their choice.

Mrs Halligan, Miss Burgess and Mr Derbyshire

3/4

The speeches have been put back until tomorrow as some children were not ready.

Next week a revision spelling test will be held. The students have been given the words which are their core grade words, for Term One.

Don’t forget Green Day tomorrow. The children should wear as much green as they can.

Some people have been learning their times tables and earning awards, but there are still many who have not earned any. Encourage your child to learn their tables.

Mr Westcott

4/5/6

This week the students have started recording their reading using my iPad. Could you please check if your child has a USB stick? I will save their reading to the USB stick so that they can listen to themselves and play it to you.

Mr Derbyshire has taught the class today and Mrs Thomas will be their teacher tomorrow while I am at the Principal’s conference.

Next week we will be doing some reading about Australia’s involvement in the World Wars. If you happen to have any memorabilia that you wouldn’t mind your child bringing in to show and discuss, then that would make it more meaningful.

We will be having our ANZAC service on Friday next week.

Mrs Karin Hird
Band News

Well done to Eloise who performed her first solo at the school assembly after playing the clarinet for only 4 weeks.

Last night the band held its AGM. Attendance was limited, however we elected a committee. The committee positions (subject to being ratified at the next P & C meeting) are:

President – Sharon Phillips
Secretary – Kevin Fitzgerald
Treasurer – Melissa Pascoe

These are the only 'official' positions, however it is vital that we have other parents attend the meetings so that important issues may be discussed and decisions made. The next meeting will be on Wednesday 8 May (Term 2, Week 2) at 7pm. Please let Mrs Smith or Mrs Hird know if this time is unsuitable as we are considering the possibility of running future meetings at an alternative time.

Mrs Smith

From the Office............

Outstanding accounts have been issued to your child today. All monies owing for last year and for Work packs MUST now be paid by the end of term please.

If you are experiencing financial difficulties, please don’t hesitate to come and see me.

Kelly and Sue

Coming Events

Term 1 Week 11

Thursday 4 April

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Friday 12 April</td>
<td>Last Day for Students</td>
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Term 2 Week 1

Monday 29 April  | Staff Development Day
Tuesday 30 April | Staff Development Day
Wed 1 May       | Students Return to School
Thursday 2 May  | Zone Cross Country Carnival
Friday 3 May    | Starstruck Rehearsal

Canteen Roster:

Friday 5 April | Anne Hutcheson
              | Michelle Groves
Monday 8 April | Trish Irwin
Wed 10 April  | Kevin Fitzgerald

Please see the attached Canteen Roster for Term 2—anyone wishing to volunteer for Term Three, please call Trish Irwin on 0419 293 927

Happy Birthday to:

Grace 1 April

Uniform Shop News

Now open on Thursdays 9.00—9.30 am

Correct Money is greatly appreciated.

We accept cash and cheque only.
School skirts have arrived for the Senior Girls

Thanks Kylie

Our School Values: Positive Behaviour Learning: Be Safe, Be Respectful & Be a Learner

Anaphylaxis Alert
Environment Awards
Dylan
Todd
Charli
Nathan R
Dylan
Elsa
Imogen
Brad
Grace

Reading Awards
Grace (Bronze)
Alyssa (Silver)
Tenille (Silver)

Book Fair
On Tuesday 26 March we held our annual Book Fair. We raised approximately $1350.00 from the sale of books.

A huge thank you goes to the Stidolph family who donated some lovely books to our Fair.

Mrs Stoppini

NORDS WHARF PUBLIC SCHOOL
“Forever Onward”

ABSENCE NOTE

Student Surname: ____________________________
First Name: _________________________________
Class: ________________________________
Date/s of Absence: __________________________
Reason for Absence: __________________________

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

Parent / Guardian Signature: ____________________________
Date: ________________________________
## Nords Wharf School Canteen Roster – Term 2 2013

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Monday 29 April</th>
<th>Wednesday 1 May</th>
<th>Friday 3 May</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Staff Development Day</td>
<td>Trish Irwin, Melani Pringle</td>
<td>Meaghan May</td>
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<tr>
<th>Monday 6 May</th>
<th>Wednesday 8 May</th>
<th>Friday 10 May</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Kristy Stonestreet</td>
<td>Lynette Richards</td>
<td>Julia Schofield, Sidone Lambert</td>
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<tr>
<th>Monday 13 May</th>
<th>Wednesday 15 May</th>
<th>Friday 17 May</th>
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<tr>
<td>Meaghan May</td>
<td>Kevin Fitzgerald, Ben Gray</td>
<td>Michelle Groves</td>
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<tr>
<th>Monday 20 May</th>
<th>Wednesday 22 May</th>
<th>Friday 24 May</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Kristy Stonestreet</td>
<td>Glenda Anderson</td>
<td>Anne Hutcheson</td>
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<tr>
<th>Monday 27 May</th>
<th>Wednesday 29 May</th>
<th>Friday 31 May</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bec Green</td>
<td>Gail Christie, Colleen Hansen</td>
<td>Julia Schofield, Sidone Lambert</td>
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<tr>
<th>Monday 3 June</th>
<th>Wednesday 5 June</th>
<th>Friday 7 June</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Kristy Stonestreet</td>
<td>Kevin Fitzgerald, Ben Gray</td>
<td>Anne Hutcheson</td>
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<tr>
<th>Monday 10 June</th>
<th>Wednesday 12 June</th>
<th>Friday 14 June</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Queen’s Birthday Long Weekend</td>
<td>Lynette Richards</td>
<td>Michelle Groves</td>
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<tr>
<th>Monday 17 June</th>
<th>Wednesday 19 June</th>
<th>Friday 21 June</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Kristy Stonestreet</td>
<td>Brooke Anderson, Rob Hughes</td>
<td>Anne Hutcheson</td>
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<tr>
<th>Monday 24 June</th>
<th>Wednesday 26 June</th>
<th>Friday 28 June</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Melanie Pringle, Trish Irwin</td>
<td>Kevin Fitzgerald, Ben Gray</td>
<td>Meaghan May</td>
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If you are unavailable or have any problems, please call:
Trish Irwin 0419 293 927 or Melanie Pringle 0411 037 687

Thank you for supporting our School Canteen
ABSENCE NOTE

Student Surname: ________________________________

First Name: ________________________________

Class: __________________

Date/s of Absence: ________________________________

Reason for Absence: ________________________________

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Parent / Guardian Signature: ________________________________

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Date: ________________________________